



Bureau of Land Management Hotshot Superintendents Committee



**NOVEMBER 8th – 10th, 2004
BOISE, ID**

MINUTES

ATTENDING: Ruby Mountain IHC, Vale IHC, Chena IHC (AK rep), Snake River IHC, Bonneville IHC, Silver State IHC, Craig IHC, Diamond Mtn. IHC, Kurt La Rue, Boise Jumper Rep

NOT ABLE TO ATTEND: Kern Valley IHC, Jackson IHC, Midnight Sun IHC, Denali IHC

Meeting convened on 11/08/04 at 1300 hours

WELCOME: Shane McDonald

- Update contact list
- Sign attendee sheet
- Review agenda

SEASON OVERVIEW: Crews provided overview of seasons.

TOPICS TO BE COVERED BY EACH CREW:

- Break down of hours: Training, Project Work, Travel, Administrative Leave, Days off, Rx work, Fire-Controlled and Uncontrolled
- Days available, Standby
- Positions filled, Vacant positions on Organizational Chart
- Number of miles crew vehicles traveled during season
- Number of Ca-1's etc
- Training summary; classes and task books (issued and completed)
- Number of detailed positions during season

OLD BUSINESS

SAWYER TASKBOOKS

- Discussion on how task books are working. The group seemed to have no complaints and were able to sign off a few C fallers through the course of the season
- Ed Merrill (Diamond Mtn) will possibly be providing some trees to help out with C faller task books in the spring. Ed will send out e-mail if and when opportunity arises

SME's

- NIFC training unit is pleased with the BLM IHC participation
- Hotshots currently involved:
 - Rich Stiles S-200
 - Randy Anderson S-234

OVER 20 Personnel Usage

- Most crews seemed to be using more than 20 personnel and it is working out well

- Crews need to keep sending cost spreadsheets to Kurt
- Due in part to the previous years spreadsheets sounds like most of the BLM IHC's will be getting an additional \$60,000 for 2005 season

2:1/ DRIVING REGS

- 2:1 regulations seemed to be working well with the exception of the variations in interpretation

MCS AD's

- MCS AD's still available
- No crews as of yet have used them

LONG LINE EXTRACTION UPDATE

- The proposal is still out there on the Forest Service side but still has some opposition
- Utah (Moab) may have one ship that is now carded to do long line extraction. Note: Will look into

OPS GUIDE

- No changes suggested
- Pursuit of increasing PT standards is dead for now

HIGH ANGLE RESCUE TRAINING UPDATE

- Nate Gogna: Still waiting on John Kennedy with Reno Fire Department. Nate will give it until the first of year with John and if it does not work out then possibly look for some local opportunities to get the training if desired

NEW BUSINESS

SPRING BURN MODULES

- Lamar (Jackson) was not able to attend, no new info
- Contact Lamar direct to inquire about availability of spring time work

WILDLAND FIREFIGHTER FOUNDATION

- Foundation hosted group for lunch and a presentation on the foundation
- Spread the word about the 52 club
- WF Foundation is worth the 52 dollars a year. They are providing assistance to families of fallen firefighters
- <http://www.wffoundation.org/>

RADIOS (Tom Romanello, Royce Shearing)

- All the crews have used one or more P-25 compliant radios
- BLM IHC preference on radios, Digital King by far. King DPH meets or exceeds the needs of the line going personnel
- Digital King, Racal, EF Johnson all on contract
- Discussion on having 6 IHC crew frequencies, not much interest

CCV's (Robert Stroud, Mike Utech, Carl Dorsey)

- Equipment shop at NIFC needs feedback on CCV's to help ensure improvements on next generation on CCV's
- Need to do Deficiency / Improvement forms annually on CCV's
- Send mobile radios to equipment shop at NIFC in order to have factory installed wiring harness put in and also will install radio

- Report to Equipment Shop when CCV's hit 60,000 miles so they can order and you can have new CCV's at 80,000 miles
- The Supts. are working with the equipment shop to design a standard IHC superintendent's vehicle. Shawn Telford (Craig) will be the contact for this project

FACILITIES (Terry O'Connell)

- Denver needs to be involved in property selection for new facilities sites up front. Call them they will work with you on property selection. Contact: Jack Emrick (303-987-6868)
- Ruby Mountain and Bonneville will split facilities dollars in FY 2006 and receive remainder in FY 2007
- Total IHC facilities package including Ops building will be approx 7600 sq ft.
- Capital Asset Plan needs to be done if facility is over 2 million dollars

IBPWT (Hallie Locklear)

- Incident Replacement: Don't abuse system, replace damaged items with s-numbers charged to the incident that item was damaged on

BUDGET (Bill Mitchell)

- Additional \$60,000 proposed for BLM IHC's. This should put BLM IHC's at approx \$480,000 for base budget
- Keep sending in crew cost spreadsheets

FIRES (Quickhire)

- Gail Colbert: Quickhire to tentatively open December 13th 2004 and tentatively remain open until March 1st 2005
- First cut off tentatively January 14th 2005
- Seasonal employees need to meet IFPM standards (more to come)

TRAINING/LEADERSHIP (Jim Cook)

- Paul Gleeson Award – need nominations, find on the web in Leadership website / toolbox
- STEX/TDGS Library online @ the Leadership Website
- Nate Gogna and Miles Ellis will be participating in a STEX/TDGS writing workshop in AZ the week of 11/14/04
- Staff Ride Workshop / 1966 Loop Fire. McDonald from Ruby Mtn. is attending
- McDonald to coordinate development of Saddler Staff Ride in Elko
- La Rue – Slots available to go on staff ride with Kurt and Redding IHC of South Canyon May 24th - 25th
- Marine Corp University Staff Ride Workshop sometime in May and one sometime in Fall. Leadership website will have updates and sign up info
- <http://www.fireleadership.gov/>

PHYSICALS

- New physicals to be done in Nevada, Idaho and Utah
- Start early, five week minimum time frame needed to get on employee done
- Physicals cost comes out of National Office
- Make sure employees go to follow up visits
- CHS only calls employee twice to schedule physical and if no contact then employee is kicked out of system. Advice: contact employees prior to let them know to be expecting a call. Diamond Mtn and Vale have been dealing with this process for a few years contact them for advice

0401 SERIES/IFPM

- La Rue gave a quick update on 0401/IFPM.
- Already issues for example: all GS-5's are required to be ICT5 under IFPM.

- BLM OF&A is drafting a request for a waiver to this qual
- Rest assured there is much more to come on this

FUEL CONTAINERS

- New Safety cans coming out soon
- Metal Jerry Cans can be retrofitted with vented caps for \$50 (Contact Miles at Craig)
- Fuel container survey from MTDC completed by most crews

WEB PAGE

- Crews thought the development of a BLM IHC webpage was worth while
- Shane McDonald will work with Sheri Ascherfeld to create this page on the BLM OF&A website

IHC HISTORY

- Submit crew history to Dave Provencio if you have not done so
- Dave should have histories for all BLM IHC's

RED BOOK

- Driving regulations may change to read something like "Speeds may not exceed posted speed limits or tire manufactures recommend listed speed for tires." Note: CCV's stock tires are all rated to 75 mph. When replacing tires, be aware of tire manufactures recommended speed
- Red book will not change for BLM until FMO's vote on the issue

RECRUITMENT VIDEO

- Submit any footage you have to Rich (Ruby Mtn). Looking for PT and formal training footage and everything else. Footage will be reviewed and some of it selected to be used in video. Please email all your logos so we can use them in the video. Looking at putting it together in Feb. at NIFC. The sooner the better on sending any footage you have
- Kurt La Rue volunteered to be the narrator
- If you want any of your footage sent back to you please let Rich know and he will get the original back after the trip to NIFC in Feb. when copies can be made

IHC SURVEYS

- Collected the BLM and the National IHC surveys
- Crews that were not present please forward BLM survey to La Rue and National Survey to McDonald

HIRING

- Ed Merrill and Randy Anderson are working on writing additional questions for Quickhire (WAE). Ed will compile a library of supplemental questions that can be used in the announcements for WAE positions

ELECTIONS

- New Chair- Ed Merrill, Supt. Diamond Mountain IHC
- New Co-Chair- Nate Gogna, Supt. Silver State IHC
- Shane McDonald will continue as BLM IHC rep to the National IHC Steering Committee until '06

Meeting adjourned on 11/10/04 at 1130 hours